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THE BLUE FOX

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From story suggested by

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Ann and Robert are thrown into the water by the explosion of the barge, but neither is badly hurt. Robert's arms are still bound, and Ann swims to him and helps him while she signals her distress to a fishing launch that comes near. The launch picks them up, and Ann asks the fisherman to land them in the little town of Edgewater, on the other side of the bay. Baxter sees them picked up, and jumps into his launch with John and Red and the other man, and races for the Edgewater side. He gets there before Ann and Robert's boat lands, and hides in the town to watch and see what Ann will do, and where she has hidden the skin. Meanshile, Tarka has come upon the wreck of the automobile, and has found the fox skin in the seat cushion, has followed the road on into Edgewater, where he has stopped at the garage to get a new apark plug for his motorcycle. While he is waiting, Ann and Robert, who have landed, come into the garage hurriedly in search of a car. Baxter and his men have followed them, and Tarka has just showed the fox skin to Ann when Baxter, John, Red, and the other two men rush in and set upon the three. Robert manages to throw half the fox skin into the back of a car that is standing in the garage before he is overpowered. At Baxter's orders, Tarka is thrown into the back of the touring car that holds the for skin. Robert, who is knocked unconscious, is carried down to a schooner at the waterfront and turned over to the mate, who throws him into the hold until he may regain consciousness. John learns that the boat is bound for Alaska, and engages passage on it for himself and Baxter. Baxter has carried Ann to a room in a hotel owned by Red's brother, and there he tries again to make her tell where the other half of the for skin is. In the fight in the garage he has secured one half of it.

John returns, and tells Baxter that he has engaged passage for them for Alaska. So Baxter leaves, leaving Ann securely tied, and with Red on guard on the balcony outside. Baxter and John go aboard the schooner, which sets sail. Meanwhile, the man who owns the car in the garage, into which Tarka was thrown, comes in and drives his car out, not noticing the unconscious figure in the tonnem. Darkmess falls, and the schooner has been out several hours when a terrific storm arises. The captain of the boat is alarmed at its fury, and decides to put back. Baxter and John persuade the mate to stir up a mutiny among the crew and continue on to San Francisco. The captain is locked in the brig behind his cabin while Baxter and John make themselves at home in the captain's cabin. Meanwhile, Ann has escaped from her ropes, and has a fierce fight with Red on the balcony when she tries to escape. Red is knocked over the edge of the balcony and falls to the ground below. Ann persuades the mast er of a fast launch to set out after the schooner. A sailor helps her on board when they overtake it. The mate, at the wheel, sees her and turns the wheel over to another sailer and comes forward. Ann resists his objectionable love-making, and he seizes her and starts to carry her below. Baxter and John hear screams and pursue the mate, who runs to his cabin. There a terrific fight ensues. At the same time, Robert is brought back to consciousness by the waves that wash into the hold. He hears Ann's screams and the sounds of battle, and fights his way through the sailors to the mate's cabin. There is horrified by what he sees. Baxter and John are knocked out, and the mate has Ann in his arms. Robert and the mate engage in a terrible battle, and Ann terrified, runs on deck for assistance. The sailors see her, and pursue her. She flees into the captain's cabin and locks herself in. Through the grating, Ann talks to the captain in the brig, and he tells her what has happened. She releases him, and they go on deck together Meanwhile, Robert has laid the mate out, and comes on deck in search of

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Ann. They overpower the rest of the crew and put them in the hold, battening down the hatch. At the captain's orders, Ann takes the wheel and Robert goes aloft to reef the mainsail. In the fury of the storm, Robert leses his footing, and is blown into surging water. Ann at the wheel, is set upon by a sailor who had been lying by the rail. He tries to take the wheel from her, and she battles with him. Infuriated, he raises her above his head, and with a mighty heave throws her into the seething sea.

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